

Potton is buzzing with compassion for local bee keepers



THE SCOOP

MABLE HASTINGS

Local bee keepers David Marchand-Duchesneau and Maude Tougas of Api M.D. Farm in Potton have found themselves in the aftermath of a very difficult situation following one of the worst years for bee keeping in the region. The couple have resorted to asking

for help through crowd funding and have created a "GoFundMe" site <https://www.gofundme.com/yzh56y-beehives> that has raised close to \$6000.00 (half of what they are aiming for) to fund their new hives.

While the season has been a difficult one for many bee keepers in the region, for Marchand-Duchesneau and Tougas, who lost 60% of their hives with prolonged cold temperatures preventing the queen bees from laying eggs and worker bees from collecting pollen and nectar, the hives could not replenish. The business is a difficult one as production is hampered by the weather with prolonged heat and the lack of rain.

The young family has a passion and a gift for their honey business and a strong connection to the community where their produce has become sought after by many including locals and those

who come in seasonally making the farm a must stop to purchase the sweet, healthy and delicious products.

Supporting the farm by visiting their GoFundMe site and making a donation in any amount is about all anyone can do. The bees will have to do the rest and while we can hope for the best weather in the upcoming season that, like many things with the environment, is a work in progress.

The Api M.D. Farm owners are very appreciative and humbled by the support shown thus far. They say that it takes a community to raise a child but in this case, it takes a community to save a business. If you are inclined to support the bee keepers and work toward helping them to once again share in the sweet taste of success, the bees and the keepers thank you.



COURTESY

Installation ceremonies, branch 15

By Claudia Villemaire
RICHMOND

It's a yearly event at Richmond's Branch 15 of the Royal Canadian Legion. This is serious business, electing folks who will carry on the goal of every Legion Branch across North America and perhaps further. Making certain veterans are given the best care available is a first priority, recognition of their service to their country are priorities for this or-

ganization which also supports community projects, schools and sports. Installation 'night' is a call to muster, in full 'dress' for ceremonies which include a complete explanation of each officers' duties. This year's new slate of officers for Branch 15 regular members is - front row - Robert Boyer, Sergeant-at-Arms, John Sharmon, 1st Vice president, Seimy Stelwagen, President, Helen Morin, 2nd Vice President, Nancy Davey, Secretary and Allie Wanderwal, Treasurer.



PHOTOS BY CLAUDIA VILLEMAIRE

Newly elected and installed officers at Richmond Branch 15, Royal Canadian Legion
Back row - Robert Bolduc, Sergeant-at-Arms, Clement Viens, Virginia Mallette, Charles Mallette, Past President, Ron Jones, Pat Jackson, Steve McGee, Michel Bolduc and Stephane Pepin.



Ladies Auxilliary - Branch 15 - front - Ann Clark, Secretary, Gail Hill, 1st Vice President, Beverly Jones, President and Shirley Noble, Sergeant-at-Arms.
Back row - Linda Bernard, Helen Begin, Phyllis Bushey, Dawn Boisvert-Johnston. Absent - Suzanne Hill

GLIMPSES OF THE PAST



Sherbrooke Historical Society Collection

Although it relied on horses in the last few years of the 19th century, Sherbrooke's Fire Department was far from inefficient. In 1897, there were 96 fire alarm call boxes across the city, and it was said that it took less than 10 seconds for fire wagons to head out to the scene. Firefighters also boasted about greater efficiency given the collaboration of their three fire stations spread across town. At the turn of the century, Sherbrooke firefighters were among the best in the province, and used a pump loaded with chemical fire retardant.

INTERESTED BY HISTORY?

Visit the bilingual exhibit, *Faces of Sherbrooke*, presented in the Andrée-Désilets room of the Sherbrooke Historical Society.

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